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# INFORMATION REPORT

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**SUBJECT**

Optical Plants and the Scientific Research  
Institute of Maritime Communications in  
Leningrad

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State Optical Institute

1. The State Optical Institute (Gosudarstvennyy Opticheskiy Institut, or GOI) is located in Leningrad on Vasilevskiy Ostrov, Birzhevaya Liniya number 13-15. In 1951 the institute employed about 2,600 engineers, technicians, and skilled workers. It experiments with all kinds of submarine periscopes, precision bomb sights (opticheskiye pritseli), range finders (dalnomeri), scientific photographic equipment, spectroscopes, parts for nautical signaling systems, and other similar optical equipment. The factory not only produces models which have been tested and accepted, but also engages in experimental work in the optical field. It is not primarily engaged in military production, but chiefly is important as an experimental institution. Equipment which is approved by GOI is mass-produced by other optical factories.

State Optical Factory

2. The State Optical Factory (Gosudarstvennyy Opticheskiy Zavod, or GOZ ) is located in Leningrad, Viipuri (Vyborg) rayon, at Chugunnaya Ulitsa number 2.<sup>1</sup> This is the largest optical factory in the Soviet Union for production of military optical equipment. The factory is not directly subordinate to the GOI, mentioned above, but coordinates work with the experimental institute and produces most of the mass-produced equipment which has been approved by GOI. GOZ also produces older types of optical equipment. In March 1950, the factory employed an estimated 5,000 workers. A new plant was constructed for GOZ between 1949 and 1951, and by the summer of 1952 it is expected that the production of the factory will be increased by this new plant.

MGB Optical-Mechanical Factory

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3. The MGB Optical-Mechanical Factory (Opticheskiy-Mekhanicheskiy Zavod imeni MGB ) is located in Leningrad.<sup>2</sup> It is not to be confused with the old pre-revolutionary optical plant known first as the Obuchovskiye Zavody, then as the Bolshevik factory. It should also be pointed out that the use of the name MGB does not imply that the factory is part of the Soviet security service, but only indicates that this factory has adopted the name MGB to connote an honorary relationship to the MGB, with a resultant attempt to increase production for this reason. Source explains that this is not an unusual occurrence in the Soviet Union. Practically, the MGB plant is included with the GOI-GOZ group and is engaged in mass production of equipment developed by GOI. The MGB plant engages in production of less specialized, complex equipment than the GOZ and GOI plants. It employs about 2,600 persons and its working staff is less specialized. The plant employs Ingermanlanders and some German and Austrian prisoners-of-war.

Scientific Research Institute of Maritime Communications

4. The Scientific Research Institute of Maritime Communications (Nauchno-Issledovatel'skiy Institut Morskoy Svyazi, or NIIMS ) is located in Leningrad. Its central office is at the Soviet Naval Headquarters in Leningrad, and it has branch offices throughout the Baltic coast and White Sea. NIIMS is reported to have radio stations in Leningrad, Kronstadt, Pushkin (59-42N, 30-24E), and at Luzhskaya Guba (59-45N, 28-20E). The institute also has a fleet of small boats for use in its experiments. NIIMS is responsible for oceanographic investigations, and for experiments in radar, radio, hydroacoustics, telephone, and telegraphy. It is reported that NIIMS has worked on the following specific problems:
- Absorbers of radar waves (poglotiteli radarnykh izlucheniye).
  - Silencing devices for sounds from submerged submarines (glushiteli shumov v podvodnykh lodkakh v podvodnom sostoyanii).
  - Radio apparatus with automatic coding device for sending and receiving (radioapparaty s avtomaticheskoy shifrovkoy peredachi i priyema).
5. NIIMS is primarily a scientific institute of the Soviet Navy, and does not engage in production of equipment. Results of its experiments have considerable importance for the navy. NIIMS has a relatively small number of employees, and probably employs no more than 400 persons in the Baltic area.

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[ ] Comment: This factory is called State Optical and Mechanical Works (GOMZ) [ ]

[ ] Comment: This may be the factory referred to in previous reports as the OGPU Optical Plant.

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